FEB 0 4 2002 EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATI PLEASE CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY OR CREDIT ANY EXCESS IN I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, this paper or fee THE FEES DUE WITH THIS DOCUMENT TO OUR DEPOSIT was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service & that it was **ACCOUNT NO. 04-0100** addressed for delivery to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 by "Express Addressee" service. Name (Print) Docket No: 2901/0J410 Customer No.: RECEIVED PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE FEB 1 1 2002 TECH CENTER 1600,2900 Giuseppina BESTETTI et al In re Application of: Art Unit: 1646 Serial No.: 09/891,865 Confirmation No.: Filed: June 25, 2001 Examiner: RECOMBINANT BACTERIAL STRAIN FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NATURAL For: NUCLEOSIDES AND MODIFIED ANALOGUES THEREOF PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT January 25, 2002 Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231 Sir: Prior to examining the application please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:



Please cancel claim 32 of the subject applicat 66 HVI PAGE PROPERTY or disclaimer.

No fees are due, however, if any fee is due the undersigned hereby authorizes the United States Patent and Trademark Office to charge the fees to Deposit Account 04-0100.

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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